



Energy Isles Shetland Wind Farm

Community Liaison Group (CLG) Meeting 11 August 2020

6.00pm, Zoom call

Minutes

1. Present & Apologies

DW opened the meeting at 6.00pm and welcomed all those in attendance, noting apologies.

Present:

Doug Wilson (DW) - Smithy House Associates Ltd
Charlotte Healey (CH) – Statkraft
Maya Hernes (MH) - Statkraft
Lisa Ward (LW) – Energy Isles Limited
Derek Jamieson (DJ) – Energy Isles Limited
Laurence Odie (LO) – Yell Community Council
Annette Jamieson (AJ) - Yell Community Council
Gordon Thomson (GT) – Unst Community Council
Graham Hughson (GH) – representative for the Development Councils and Community Groups
Murray Cooper (MC) – Fetlar Community Council

Apologies:

None.

2. Action Points from the last minutes

The minutes of the last meeting were approved by the group and have been circulated to key stakeholders.

CH introduce Maya Hernes who will be assisting on the project going forward.

3. Public Exhibition Tuesday 4 February 2020 - Feedback

The public consultation event was held on the 4th of February 2020 and the team had shown the details of the revised scheme and given people the opportunity to comment and ask questions.

DW reminded the CLG that leaflets detailing key points and the date and time of the consultation event had been sent to every household in the North Isles, approximately 900 houses, along with a

freepost reply card to allow everyone the opportunity to provide feedback and comments if they could not attend the exhibition.

DW noted key points of feedback from the exhibition,

50 people had attended the exhibition

76 responses were received, 25 at the exhibition and 51 via the postal reply card

47 replies were strongly supportive or supportive

26 replies were strongly opposed or opposed,

3 replies were neither supportive nor opposed

AJ asked what the comments from those opposed covered. DW summarised the opposing comments - these included a concern about a possible quarry location, some concerns about the scale of development, comments on the landscape and visual impact, and some questions and concerns about the impact on breeding birds and peat.

CH also explained that a full summary of the feedback will be in the PAC report which will be submitted to the Energy Consents Unit and also uploaded to the website. A press release would be circulated widely upon submission. It will be a formal update as part of the Supplementary Environmental Information (SEI).

4. New Energy Isles Statkraft Website

DW discussed the new Energy Isles website that is located at www.energyisles-shetland.co.uk and asked for feedback. There was no feedback currently but DW asked the group to have a look and let him know if there were any comments.

5. Planning Update

CH explained the project evolution since the last meeting and how feedback from the general public, and consultees including Scottish Natural Heritage and Historic Environment Scotland, had been accommodated in the updated design.

CH confirmed that feedback from the event and the posted reply cards had been read and changes will be included in the submission of Supplementary Environmental Information to the Energy Consents Unit.

The group discussed if the capacity would reduce with the heights being reduced. CH explained that height has not made a difference and overall capacity would be maintained using upgraded machines.

A discussion was held around whether the turbine height reductions at Gloup, Cullivoe and Sellafirth would make a difference to visual impact in these areas. CH explained that this may be subjective but that these height reductions had resulted from concerns and feedback raised by local folk throughout the consultation process and feedback from SNH

6. Shared Ownership MoU

The draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) regarding Shared Ownership had been circulated for comment and feedback. It was noted that there had been no direct questions received on the updated MOU.

There were also discussions centred around the Community Benefit MoU. AJ asked how the committee was made up, how members would be chosen, AJ was concerned that it may lead to an imbalanced committee. CH confirmed that it was up to the CLG to decide on the membership of 10

members which included 2 from each Community Council. CH to take this discussion as an action and report back. **ACTION CH**

CH confirmed that Statkraft is committed to providing Shared Ownership with an opportunity to invest in the project, with support from Local Energy Scotland's Community and Renewable Energy Scheme (CARES).

GT commented that they had a look at the Community Ownership MoU and how they'd raise the money (including CARES involvement), but not much has happened since the Feb meeting. CH to check with Mark Brennan that £25k is indeed available from CARES, and other financial help once further progressed. **ACTION CH/SK**

GH noted that the community will need a separate meeting to understand better this MoU, the offer and any concerns regarding this commitment. GH commented that there are current concerns as to when the investment commitment is to take place, he felt that there is a risk of starting too early and it becoming a nonstarter. GH asked if there is flexibility round the timings. **SK to clarify.**

CH offered to be part of calls with the group and CARES when these were set up. **ACTION GH**

GH on behalf of the group noted that they may have to separate from the CLG but were still willing to be part of the CLG for general items. It was felt that investment for individual groups should be decided themselves and not as part of the CLG.

7. AOB

MC noted that Fetlar CC would have transport problems attending future meetings. This was discussed and it was felt that lifts may be able to be sorted from and to ferries etc. DW was happy to look at alternatives for Fetlar to attend the meetings with remote access like today's call being a possible option.

8. Future Meeting Dates

The next meeting date would be confirmed as soon as possible, it is hoped to be late September or early October 2020.

Meeting closed at 6.45pm.